

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of the application is requested.

Claims 1-13 remain in the application. Claims 1, 2, and 11 have been amended.

With reference to the drawing objection, enclosed herewith is a proposed correction for Figs. 1-3. In response to the Examiner's objection, we have added several descriptive labels. It is noted, in this context, that most of the square boxes appearing in the drawing figures are in fact terminal pads, which do not require labels.

We have considered the Examiner's apparent invitation that simple flowcharts should be provided illustrating the method. We respectfully disagree that flowcharts should be required, as the novel method is properly described in sufficient detail to be understood.

The Examiner is requested to accept the drawing changes and to indicate the acceptance.

With regard to the objection to the specification in paragraph 4 on page 2 of the detailed action, various editorial changes have been made to the specification.

Appl. No. 10/075,656

Amdt. dated November 2, 2004

Reply to Office action of August 2, 2004

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached sheets of drawings include changes to Figures 1-3. These sheets replace the original sheets. Descriptive labels have been added in each of Figures 1-3.

With regard to the objection to claim 1, the missing word "of" has been inserted in the preamble.

The claims have been amended in response to the Examiner's rejection thereof under 35 U.S.C. § 112. The Examiner's careful review of the application is appreciated. The specifically listed objected-to terms have been carefully reviewed and several changes have been made. We respectfully traverse the rejection of claim 7, however. There is nothing indefinite about a method claim that makes reference to a device claim. In fact, it is proper to refer to a device within a method claim. See MPEP 608.01 and Ex parte Porter, 25 USPQ2d 1144 (Bd. Pat. App. & Inter. 1992)

The specification and the claims meet the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112, first and second paragraphs. Should the Examiner find any further objectionable items, counsel would appreciate a telephone call during which the matter may be resolved.

We now turn to the art rejection. The claims have been rejected as being obvious over several combinations of art. Each of the combinations includes as the primary reference the application publication Sanghani, US 2003/0101376 A1.

Sanghani has a filing date of November 27, 2001. The instantly claimed invention is based on a German application of February 13, 2001. A claim for priority has been made by applicants and the certified priority document was filed on April 8, 2002.

Enclosed herewith is a certified translation of the priority document. Applicants' claim for priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 has thus been perfected and Sanghani is no longer available as a prior art reference.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and the allowance of all of the claims is solicited.

If an extension of time for this paper is required, petition for extension is herewith made. Please charge any fees which might be due with respect to Sections 1.16 and 1.17 to the Deposit Account of Lerner and Greenberg, P.A., No. 12-1099.

Respectfully submitted,



For Applicants,
WHS/tk

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